

IN THE CLAIMS:

✓ Please cancel Claims 5, 12, 16-23 and 28-34.

Please amend Claims 1-4, 6-11, 13-15 and 24-27 as follows:

--1. (Amended) A grooming and washing mitt for a pet animal [such as a dog, said mitt having a rear side co-extensive with a front palm side cleaning work surface], said mitt comprising:

a hollow flexible body having a flexible rear side co-extensive with a flexible palm side cleaning surface so that said hollow body is flexible with an open end for insertion of a hand [therethrough] into said body and a separate hollow thumb portion extending therefrom,

a built-in fluid retaining reservoir for discharging fluid from, said reservoir extending within said [mitt] body from a distal fingertip end to a proximal wrist end adjacent to said open end of said [mitt] body, said reservoir having a plurality of discharge ports openable upon flexing of [said palm side of] said mitt;

said mitt having a predetermined denser pattern of flexible nibs on said palm side to engage pet hairs, to remove loose hairs, and to provide effective massage, said dense pattern of flexible nibs extending axially from said distal fingertip end to said proximal wrist end of said mitt and

said dense pattern of nibs extending medially along a mid-line of said mitt.

2. (Unchanged) The mitt as in Claim 1 wherein said plurality of discharge ports extends through a large portion of said palm side of said mitt, said ports discharging cleaning fluid over said cleaning work surface of said palm side of said mitt.

3. (Unchanged) The mitt as in Claim 1 wherein said fluid discharge ports normally remain closed when no internal pressure is built up and the palm is kept essentially flat, but open when said palm side of said mitt is flexed in a concave configuration, said flexing of said mitt building up internal pressure within said reservoir for discharging of said fluid therethrough.

4. (Unchanged) The mitt as in Claim 1 wherein said medially extending dense pattern of nibs includes a plurality of nib patterns having a central nib with further plurality of concentric circles of nibs, for massaging and removing hair snags and loose hairs when a circular motion of said mitt is used, wherein said dense pattern of nibs provides a substantial force to be exerted against the hide of the animal without collapsing said nibs from a perpendicular direction extending from said palm side work surface of said mitt.

6. (Unchanged) The mitt as in Claim 1 wherein said mitt further includes a reservoir filling port and an

integrally molded stopper removably attachable to said reservoir filling port.

7. (Amended) The mitt as in Claim [5] 1 further comprising a hanging tab for suspending said mitt therefrom.

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8. (Unchanged) The mitt as in Claim 1 wherein said mitt is molded of rubber.

9. (Amended) A grooming and washing mitt for a pet animal [such as a dog, said mitt having a rear side co-extensive with a front palm side cleaning work surface], said mitt comprising:

a hollow flexible body having a flexible rear side co-extensive with a flexible front palm side cleaning work surface with an open end for insertion of a hand [therethrough] into said body and a separate hollow thumb portion extending therefrom;

a built-in fluid-retaining reservoir for discharging fluid therefrom, [efficient pet grooming,] said reservoir extending within said [mitt] body from a distal fingertip end to a proximal wrist end adjacent to said open end of said [mitt] body, said reservoir having a plurality of discharge ports openable upon flexing of said palm side of said mitt; and

said mitt having a predetermined pattern of flexible nibs on said palm side to engage pet hairs.

10. (Unchanged) The mitt as in Claim 9 wherein said plurality of discharge ports extends through a large portion of said palm side of said mitt, said ports discharging cleaning fluid over said cleaning work surface of said palm side of said mitt.

11. (Unchanged) The mitt as in Claim 9 wherein said fluid discharge ports normally remain closed when no internal pressure is built up and the palm is kept essentially flat, but open when said palm side of said mitt is flexed in a concave configuration, said flexing of said building up internal pressure within said reservoir for discharging of said fluid therethrough.

13. (Unchanged) The mitt as in Claim 9 wherein said mitt further includes a reservoir filling port and an integrally molded stopper removably attachable to said reservoir filling port.

14. (Unchanged) The mitt as in Claim 13 further comprising a hanging tab for suspending said mitt therefrom.

15. (Unchanged) The mitt as in Claim 9 wherein said mitt is molded of rubber.

24. (Amended) A grooming and washing brush for a pet animal [such as a dog, said brush having a rear side co-extensive with a front palm side cleaning work surface], said brush comprising:

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a flexible body having a flexible rear side co-extensive with a flexible front palm side cleaning work surface and at least one strap for insertion of a hand therein located adjacent said rear side on the opposite side from said front palm side;

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a built-in fluid retaining reservoir between said rear and front palm sides for discharging fluid from[,] said reservoir extending within said brush from a distal fingertip end to a proximal wrist end, said reservoir having a plurality of discharge ports openable upon flexing of said palm side of said brush;

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said brush having a predetermined denser pattern of flexible nibs on said palm side to engage pet hairs, to remove loose hairs, and to provide effective massage, said dense pattern of flexible nibs extending axially from said distal fingertip end to said proximal wrist end of said brush; and

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said dense pattern of nibs limited to and extending medially along a mid-line of said brush.

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25. (Unchanged) The brush as in Claim 24 wherein said fluid discharge ports normally remain closed when no internal pressure is built up and the palm is kept ^{LPA}

essentially flat, but open when said palm side of said brush is flexed in a concave configuration, said flexing of said brush building up internal pressure within said reservoir for discharging of said fluid therethrough.

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26. (Unchanged) The brush as in Claim 24 wherein said medially extending dense pattern of nibs includes a plurality of nib patterns having a central nib with further plurality of concentric circles of nibs, for massaging and removing hair snags and loose hairs when a circular motion of said brush is used, wherein said dense pattern of nibs provides a substantial force to be exerted against the hide of the animal without collapsing said nibs from a perpendicular direction extending from said palm side work surface of said brush.

27. (Unchanged) The brush as in Claim ²⁴(1) wherein said brush further includes a reservoir filling port and an integrally molded stopper removably attachable to said reservoir filling port.--